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Kanjirapuzha Irrigation Project, Malabar.

* 260 *Q.*—Sri K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any work has begun in connexion with the Kanjirapuzha Irrigation Project in Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, the nature of the work now going on and how many are working there?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) No work is going on now."

Sri K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" Have the Government recommended the scheme for inclusion in the Second Five-Year Plan? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Yes, Sir. This has been recommended along with seven other schemes. This is third in priority and we are expecting sanction from the Planning Commission."

Misappropriation of funds in the Karaikudi Co-operative Stores.

11-40 a.m. * 261 *Q.*—Sri P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any complaints were made to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies against one Mr. Swamikannu Pillai, Secretary, Karaikudi Co-operative Stores, about the misappropriation of Rs. 10,000 by the said Secretary;

(*b*) whether, on the receipt of the complaint, the Registrar instead of taking action against Mr. Swamikannu Pillai, transferred the Deputy Registrar of Ramanathapuram and posted one Mr. Singararaju Pillai (Christian) in his place;

(*c*) whether the Deputy Registrar subsequently dropped proceedings against Mr. Swamikannu Pillai, and if so, why;

(*d*) whether the amount said to have been misappropriated was recovered; and

(*e*) if so, from whom?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Sri A. Singararaju Pillai was posted as Deputy Registrar, Ramanathapuram, when Sri M. Kalyanam Iyer, the then Deputy Registrar, retired from service.

" (*c*) No, Sir.

" (*d*) & (*e*) To recover the amounts from the persons who have misappropriated them, the Stores has filed arbitration references before the Deputy Registrar. They are pending disposal."

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SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister the name of the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies before whom these arbitration proceedings are pending, what is the amount misappropriated and by whom and when the act of misappropriation was discovered . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member must put questions one by one."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister the name of the Deputy Registrar before whom these arbitration proceedings are pending? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The present Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" I am extremely sorry, Sir, for the reply of the Hon. Minister. The Hon. Minister can disclose the name of the Deputy Registrar to whom the arbitration proceedings had been referred from the information available with him. I also want to know how much amount was misappropriated? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The amount misappropriated is Rs. 12,901–9–8 by one gentleman and Rs. 12,083–14–3 by another gentleman."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether these gentlemen are 'gentlemen' of the public or members of the co-operative society or members of the staff of the society? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" They [illegible] purchasing agents."

SRI AR. A. RM. CHOKKALINGAM CHETTIAR :—" ஸார், கூட்டுறவு சொஸைட்டி சம்பந்தமாக நடந்த வழக்கில் அதைப்பற்றி விசாரிக்கும்படி போலீசுக்கு தகவல் வந்ததும் அதை விசாரிக்காமல் இருப்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தெரியுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Charges have been framed against the Sub-Deputy Registrar who was the Secretary of this Karaikudi Co-operative Stores. Disciplinary proceedings are still pending with the Deputy Registrar."

SRI A. RAMASAMI TEVAR :—" The Hon. Minister for Co-operation has been telling us about 'gentlemen who committed misappropriation'. May I know from the Hon. Minister the exact definition of a 'gentleman' please? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Not ladies; they are gentlemen."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, in view of the serious allegations made against the Co-operative department and its officials and in view of the fact that the ex-Registrar had been consistently safeguarding them—not on the merits of the questions involved but on

grounds of communal affiliation—will the Government be pleased to appoint a small committee to go into the serious allegations levelled against that Registrar of Co-operative Societies who is now no more in the service of this Government? May I also know from the Hon. Minister what exactly is the truth behind all these allegations? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has called for an explanation from this Sub-Deputy Registrar . . .''

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—'' I want a definite answer to my question? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' Charges have been framed against this Sub-Deputy Registrar and disciplinary proceedings are pending with the Deputy Registrar. I do not know what further information the hon. Member wants.''

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—'' A number of questions are being asked or were asked even last time with regard to the misappropriation of funds of the co-operative societies during the time of that particular Registrar. The Government every time have been giving answers that there was no complaint or that there was no misappropriation. Will the Government be pleased to see that any other private agency is authorized to investigate into these cases and then give an answer instead of relying on the report of the very Registrar against whom complaints were made or are being made? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' All cases of misappropriation or mismanagement are dealt with by the department.''

SRI P. CHELLATHURAI :—'' பல கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்களில் ஊழல்கள் மலிந்து கிடப்பதாக அடிக்கடி புகார்கள் வருவதால் ஐக்கிய சங்கங்கள் அனைத்தையும் ஒழித்துக்கட்டி அவைகளை அரசாங்கம் எடுத்து நடத்துவதற்கு ஆலோசிக்குமா ? '' (சிரிப்பு.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' The co-operative movement is a very big movement in the State and there are thousands of societies whose transactions amount to several lakhs and crores of rupees. A few cases of misappropriation of funds here and there are inevitable and we cannot help it.''

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—'' It is true that the co-operative movement is a very useful movement and that is why it becomes the responsibility of the Government to raise its prestige. On more than one occasion, it has been alleged on the floor of this House that all these irregularities have been the result of the encouragement shown by the previous Registrar of Co-operative Societies—Mr. J. C. Ryan. Those facts have not been denied by Hon. Ministers even during their replies to questions. May I suggest to the Government to appoint a small committee to go into all these irregularaities and to set right all the things for which the previous Registrar was responsible? ''

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already stated that the Government have under consideration the appointment of a Committee to go into the working of these societies and to suggest improvements and all irregularities—whatever irregularities have happened—will also be enquired into by that Committee."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" Without being misunderstood I wish to emphasize the point that answers are not generally satisfactory, and only to-day, after at least four questions were put, the fourth question was answered a little bit satisfactorily. In view of the fact that thousands of rupees had been misappropriated not by one single individual but by a number of individuals, may I know from the Hon. Minister during what period the misappropriation of funds took place, what happened during the half-yearly inspection of accounts by auditors and who discovered the misappropriation of funds . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has already put three questions."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The officers of the department have frequently pointed out the unwholesome practice of issuing huge purchase advances to purchasing agencies. But the Board of Directors of the Stores did not stop the practice."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Central Government have appointed Sri K. G. Sivaswami Ayyar to go into the working of these societies or whether the State Government have appointed him to go into the working of these societies and whether he has submitted any report to this Government?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" It has nothing to do with the main question."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" May I know whether any criminal proceeding were taken either against the directors or persons responsible for the misappropriation of funds? May I also know whether any attempt was made to supersede this society as was done in the case of Ariyalur Society?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already answered this question."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" The position is this, Sir. Whenever a question is put on the floor of the House, the Hon. Minister relies for his reply upon the answers supplied to him by the very Registrar against whom allegations are made. The Hon. Minister, whenever questions are put, reads from what is contained in the files. May I request the Government to appoint a non-official committee, and not an official committee, to go into the allegations made against the ex-Registrar who is not now in the service of this Government?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is a very strange demand. The usual procedure is to send the question to the departmental head for his reply and as soon as his reply is received, it will be examined in the Secretariat. If further clarification is required, the matter will again be referred to him. This is the usual procedure adopted with regard to answering of questions."

Expenditure incurred on adult education.

*262 *Q.*—SRI M. KATTIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount expended for adult education in the State, district-war in 1953–54; and

(*b*) how many persons were benefited by adult education?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

" (*b*) About 11,075."

SRI R. KUPPUSWAMY :—" ஸார், மேஜையின் மீது வைக்கப் பட்டிருக்கும் ஸ்டேட்மெண்டில் மலபார் ஜில்லாவிற்கு ரூ. 60,985-ம் தென்னார்காடு ஜில்லாவிற்கு ரூ. 53,993-ம் செலவழிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று தெரிய வருகிறது. இன்னும் பார்க்கும்பொழுது மற்ற ஜில்லாக் களுக்கு அதில் மூன்றில் ஒரு பங்குகூட செலவழிக்கப்படவில்லை. அதன் வித்யாசத்திற்குக் காரணம் என்ன ? அதைப்பற்றி கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லுவார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The work is carried on in the respective districts."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" May I know whether there has been any fundamental change in the policy of the Government in regard to adult education? May I also know whether any representations have been made about the policy of the Government in regard to adult education and what the Government have to say about those representations? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have made a few changes in the policy of the Government on adult education and it has been published in the newspapers."

11-50 a.m. SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" സർ, ഈ അഡൾട്ട് എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ സെൻററുകൾ ആദായകരമായ ഒരു വ്യാപാരമായി കണക്കാക്കി ചില ആളുകൾ നടത്തിവരികയാണ്. നാലും അഞ്ചും ടീച്ചർമാക്ക് ഈ ഗ്രാൻറ് വാങ്ങുന്നുണ്ട്. അതേസമയം നല്ല നിലയിൽ നടത്തുന്ന പല സെൻററുകൾക്കും ഗ്രാൻറ് കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ സെൻററുകളുടെ ശരിയായ നടത്തിപ്പിനെക്കുറിച്ച് അന്വേഷിക്കുന്നതിന്ന് അതാതു സ്ഥലത്തെ എം.എൽ.എ. മാരെക്കൂടെ ചുമതലപ്പെടുത്താൻ ഗവമ്മേണ്ട് ആലോചിക്കുമോ ? "

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP (translation) :—" There are some people who have made adult education a business while there are good institutions which do not get the required grant.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 60 infra.